FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

1 OCTOBER 1986

PLO

The UAE paper *Al-Ittihad* reported that the PLO has begun withdrawing from Tunisia in order to establish a new headquarters in Iraq, according to WAM. A hundred Palestinians left Tunis last week, the report said, and the departure will involve "all PLO circles and interests" including the Political Department and WAFA, the PLO's news agency. PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat earlier told Kuwait's *Al-Ray' Al-Amm in a statement cited by KUNA that the Palestinian* leadership will have no definite or permanent address until it acquires an appropriate site that can accomodate its presence. He also said the PLO command has decided to end its military presence in Tunisia, and KUNA noted that the PLO leader's statement followed reports that Tunisia has taken control of his headquarters.

In contrast with these reports, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf dismissed "unfounded rumours" about a PLO move from Tunis during an interview published by *Al-Ray' Al-Amm* 20 September. Tunisia has not asked the PLO to leave, he said, and nothing mars relations between the two sides.

Morocco

King Hassan II appointed Azzedine Laraki as the new prime minister, telling him in remarks broadcast by Rabat radio that the government must work "hand in hand" with Parliament to implement the program which the king will announce at the inauguration of the new parliamentary session. King Hassan also announced the appointment of Mohamed Hilali as minister of national education, Laraki's former position, and of Mohamed Saqqat as the Foreign Ministry secretary concerned with EEC relations.

Lebanon

A Lebanese Forces (LF) statement broadcast by Voice of Lebanon radio stressed that the events of 27 September were not the result of divisions within the LF but of 12 years of Syrian intervention. The statement emphasized the LF's "excellent relations" with the Lebanese Army, and denied that Colonel Khalil Kan'an's assassination was linked with the LF-Army clash in Monte Verde.

Meanwhile, Elie Hubayqah vowed to overthrow LF leader Samir Ja'Ja', asserting that the 27 September battle was "only the beginning," according to Beirut radio.

Syria

President Hafiz al-Asad told visiting Jordanian journalists that he is ready to declare unity with Iraq under "charters binding the two countries," stressing that this could pave the way for an end to the Iran-Iraq war, KUNA reported. As for Syria's economic problems, Al-Asad acknowledged that its economic development is lagging behind military development.

Sudan

The clandestine SPLA radio broadcast another warning about the dangers of airlifting relief supplies to Juba and Malakal, urging the international organizations involved in "Operation Rainbow" to stop allowing themselves to be used by the Sudanese Government as "pawns in a dangerous political game." Citing an official SPLA spokesman, the radio said the authorities in Khartoum are determined to deny relief organizations access to SPLA-controlled areas, "where the bulk of the starving population resides," adding that it is a pity that "Rainbow" has failed to dissociate itself from the government's attempt to "politicize" its operation.

Libya

Envoy in Saudi Arabia — Revolutionary Command member Major Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi was received by Saudi King Fahd in Jeddah, SPA reported.

Fiat Shares — Libya decided to sell its Fiat shares because of the particular economic situation in the financial market resulting from the "abnormal increase" in the value of shares and in view of the increase of the Italian lira against the U.S. dollar, a spokesman for the Libyan company for foreign investments asserted in a statement reported by JANA. The company sold its shares for $3 billion, thus making a large profit on its original investment of $400 million, he said.

Egypt-Djibouti

Djibouti's decision to reestablish relations with Egypt was welcomed by the director of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry's African Department, who viewed the move as a "constructive step," according to Cairo radio. Djibouti's foreign minister said the restoration of diplomatic relations will assist the search for Arab unity, AFP noted.

Iran-Iraq War

Tehran radio announced that Iranian forces killed around 100 Iraqis during a 3 km advance in the Changuleh River area, near Mehran. An Iraqi communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio stated that an Iranian attack in the area was repulsed.

Iran-Kuwait

Following his visit to Saudi Arabia, the Iranian oil minister arrived in Kuwait where he met with his Kuwaiti counterpart and with the amir, IRNA noted.

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Gandhi, Zail Singh Greet PRC Leaders on National Day

BK010340 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT Oct 86

[Text] The Chinese prime minister, Mr Zhao Ziyang has renewed Beijing's call for peaceful reunification with Taiwan. He said he sincerely hoped that the authorities in Taiwan would consider China's proposals for the states to be reunified on the principle of one country, two systems. Mr Zhao Ziyang was speaking at a reception marking the 37th anniversary of the communist take over of mainland China.

The president, Giani Zail Singh, and the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, have greeted China on the occasion.

Foreign Secretary Venkateswaran To Visit USSR 2-5 Oct

BK301535 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1519 GMT 30 Sep 86

[Text] An Indian delegation led by Foreign Secretary A.P. Venkateswaran will be visiting Moscow from October 2 to October 5 for preliminary discussions and exchange of views in connection with the forthcoming visit of the General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Mikhail Gorbachev to India. Venkateswaran will be accompanied by G. Parthasarthy, joint secretary (XP) and Y.M. Tewari, joint secretary (EE). These discussions and consultations are in keeping with the true spirit of the traditionally friendly relations between India and Soviet Union.

Industrial Cooperation Agreement Signed With USSR

BK011012 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 1 Oct 86

[Text] The Soviet Union is to assist India in the modernization of her railway network. It will also collaborate in the production of machines for coal mining, chemicals industry, agriculture, and computerized X-ray machines.

A protocol to this effect was signed in Moscow yesterday at the end of the 2-week long session of the India-Soviet subworking group for cooperation. The protocol also envisages manufacture of powerful turbohydro generators and heavy excavators and the establishment of big plants for disposal of waste material in (?India).

TULF Delegation Meets External Affairs Minister

BK010336 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 1 Oct 86

[Text] A delegation of the Tamil United Liberation Front [TULF] met the external affairs minister, Mr Shiv Shankar, in New Delhi yesterday. The delegation has already had talks with the foreign secretary, Mr Venkateswaran, on the formulations received from Sri Lanka to resolve the ethnic problem.

Objection Raised to Pakistani Remarks at UN

BK300950 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 30 Sep 86

[Text] At the UN General Assembly yesterday India took strong exception to the Pakistan foreign minister's reference to Kashmir. Expressing his right to reply, India's permanent representative to the United Nation, Mr Gharekhan, said the Simla Agreement provides the basis for resolving all outstanding issues between the two countries through bilateral negotiations.

India, therefore, fails to understand the reference to the so-called Kashmir question, he said. Mr Yaqub Khan had earlier said the matter should be settled on the basis of the UN resolutions and in the spirit of the Simla Agreement.

PTI reporting from New York says the Indian delegation's objection was to Mr Yaqub Khan's reference to UN resolutions when India and Pakistan have agreed to settle all matters bilaterally.

Punjab To Remain Restricted Area for Foreigners

BK010315 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 1 Oct 86

[Text] The whole of Punjab will continue to remain a restricted area for foreigners till the 2d of January next year.

No foreign passport holder can enter Punjab for any purpose without obtaining a special permission from the Government of India or an Indian mission abroad or the government of Punjab.

Police Arrest 10 Terrorists in Amritsar Area

BK010310 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 1 Oct 86

[Text] In Punjab, two bullet ridden bodies were recovered in Amritsar District. The police, meanwhile, have arrested 10 terrorists in Amritsar and Gurdaspur Districts.

A police spokesman told our correspondent that two bodies with bullet injuries were found near a tubewell in (Gari) village under the Valtoha police station. The district police have registered a case.

8 Check Posts To Be Set Up on Border With Nepal

BK010346 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 1 Oct 86

[Text] In West Bengal, eight more check posts will be set up soon on the Indo-Nepal border to watch the movement of people crossing the border.

The director general of the state police, R. Bhatacharya, said in Siliguri that two additional companies of CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] have been sent to Darjeeling to further strengthen the security measures.

Commentary: Sino-Pakistan Pact 'Cause for Concern'
BK261502 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1340 GMT 26 Sep 86

[H.C. Bhatt Commentary: "Sino-Pak Nuclear Collaboration"]

[Text] The recent agreement on nuclear collaboration between Pakistan and China has caused considerable concern in India. Anything that goes to enhance Pakistan's nuclear weapon capability is perceived as a threat to India because India is convinced on the basis of evidence that Islamabad is engaged in a nuclear bomb program. Of course, Beijing has denied that the agreement with Pakistan is anything but peaceful. The pact was signed in the presence of the Chinese premier, Mr Zhao Ziyang, by Pakistan's foreign minister, Mr Yaqub Khan, for his country and by Mr Song Jian, China's minister in charge of the State Commission for Science and Technology. Such high-level participation and that fact that nothing was known about the agreement until it was signed and, indeed, about Mr Yaqub Khan's visit to Beijing, shows there was some hush-hush business about this collaboration deal between the two countries. After all, China and Pakistan have been collaborating with each other in the military field for more than 2 decades. Beijing has supplied fighter planes, Chinese and other military hardware to Islamabad. Even nuclear collaboration has been achieved by them although there was no pact of this kind before. The absence of the agreement did not come in the way of exchange of nuclear information and knowledge.

Reports from the Western media and scientific and strategic journals, most of them friendly to both China and Pakistan, have been reporting on the stage of nuclear capability that Pakistan has achieved. China, of course, exploded its first nuclear bomb more than 2 decades ago and subsequently conducted more explosions at the Lop Nur test site. This is situated in its Xinjiang Province close to the common border between India and China in the western sector and also close to the common region between China and Pakistan which is actually Indian territory in Pakistan's illegal occupation. The Western media and strategic journals have also been saying that at Lop Nur in 1983 a test was conducted which was in fact a Pakistani bomb tested on Chinese soil. A Pakistani minister was also said to have been present at the (?explosion) which must have been some occasion for Islamabad. Such a trick was resorted to by Pakistan apparently because any explosion in Pakistan itself would attract the anger of the American Congress which would cut off economic and military aid to Islamabad for going nuclear. Not that the United States is unaware of the Pakistani clandestine nuclear bomb project, much of the information on the work done in Pakistan on uranium enrichment has been reported in the American media which in turn got the information from the Central Intelligence Agency of the United States. Responsible American public men have openly accused Pakistan of secretly acquiring the bomb while making diplomatic denial for the benefit of the White House which regards Pakistan as an indispensable ally in preserving American hegemony in the Gulf region.

The Sino-Pakistani collaboration in such circumstances can only mean military collaboration. Even if Chinese denials of any military element in the cooperation agreement are to be taken at their face value, where is the guarantee that Islamabad will not put the help given by China to military use? After all, much of the Pakistani achievement in the nuclear field is based on the technology, plans, and drawings which its much spoken of nuclear scientist, Dr Abdul Qadir Khan, stealthily brought out of the European nations' jointly-run plant in the Netherlands where he was once employed. So everything is (? good) to the Pakistani nuclear weapons mill and while China may think it is giving know-how and material for peaceful development, these could well be put to military use in secret plants like the one at Kahuta near Islamabad.

The United States has a great responsibility in the matter. As Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi recently pointed out, the Reagan administration has been winking at the Pakistani military nuclear bomb program. India's repeated protests have been ignored by Washington in order not to jeopardize its aid program to Pakistan and the quid pro quo benefit that the United States gets from Islamabad. On the other hand, Washington under President Reagan's direction has entered into a major nuclear cooperation pact with China. How much of this cooperation will filter down to Islamabad via Beijing can be anyone's guess. India has enough cause for concern.

Paper Welcomes UK Draft Extradition Treaty
BK291450 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English 20 Sep 86 p 9

[Editorial: "Extradition Treaty"]

[Text] The presentation by Britain to India of a draft extradition treaty is a step in the right direction. For, after the two countries' Prime Ministers had agreed in October, 1985, on the need for such a treaty mainly to meet the menace of "Khalistani" extremists who had taken refuge in Britain, Whitehall had inexplicably been dragging its feet. It had suggested a number of alternatives such as the extension of the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism and suitable amendments to the Prevention of Terrorism Act and the Commonwealth Fugitives Act. But India had stood firm and, in fact, had given a draft treaty to Britain in January. But no discussion on it could be held because of Britain's changed attitude.

Now that Britain has finally agreed to such a treaty by giving a draft, the two can be discussed by legal experts of the two countries. Though neither country has discussed details of its drafts, they are understood broadly to cover common points. According to British spokesmen, their draft has gone a step further than the Anglo-American extradition treaty in that there is no "list system" of extraditable offences, for all the offences attracting a sentence of 12 months or more will automatically become extraditable.

Why Indian spokesmen are cautious in their response is firstly because legal experts have still to examine the draft. Secondly, even if an extradition treaty is signed, much will depend on the spirit in which it is applied. Thus, though according to British spokesmen political offences for which extradition will not be applicable are limited in scope in their draft, it will be up to British courts to interpret, the clause. Another clause which is bound to be there, as it is in the Anglo-American treaty and other

such treaties, is that of "humanitarian safeguards" under which a British (or Indian) court would have the power to refuse to extradite a person if it thought he would not get a fair trial in his country. This clause has caused much trouble for Britain in getting Irish terrorists extradited from the U.S. Such clauses give much leeway to courts. But such hurdles, if they arise, will have to be crossed later. For now the objective is to arrive at a mutually acceptable extradition treaty.

Ziaul Haq, Junejo Greet PRC Leaders on National Day

BK010235 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 1 Oct 86

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo have congratulated President Li Xiannian and Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang on the occasion of the 37th founding anniversary of the People's Republic of China today.

In his message, the president said the good will and closeness of the two countries are the special features of Pakistan-China relations and that, with the passage of time, these relations will be further promoted and strengthened for the benefit of the peoples of the two countries.

In his message, the prime minister said he believes the close relations and cooperation will be further strengthened in the future.

India's Plan for Jhelum River Dam 'Protested'

'Complete' Information Lacking

BK301539 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 30 Sep 86

[Text] Pakistan has protested to India over the Indian Government's noncompliance with the Indus Basin Treaty. The foreign secretary conveyed the Pakistani Government's protest to the Indian ambassador in Islamabad on Sunday. The protest has been lodged over the failure of the Indian Government to provide timely and complete information regarding its plan to construct a dam on the Jhelum River in the occupied Kashmir, which is a violation of the clauses of the Indus Basin Treaty.

National Assembly Debates Issue

BK010158 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 30 Sep 86

[Excerpt] The National Assembly was informed this evening by the minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr Zain Noorani, that construction of a barrage on the Jhelum River at the mouth of Wular Lake in occupied Kashmir would entail a great breach of the Indus Water Treaty. He was speaking on an adjournment motion sought to be moved by (Ansar Tariq Tarar)

He said the Pakistan Government would take effective measures in accordance with the provisions of the treaty to prevent any deteriment to Pakistan's rights under the treaty. Under the treaty, India is not allowed even to store the water of (?the western) river or construct any storage work on that. If the Indus Commission does not reach a settlement the Pakistan Government can take up the matter with the Indian Government to resolve the dispute by agreement. Minister of state said the question should be settled without delay as the Pakistan Government cannot accept diluted tactics for the creation of a greater conflict. He said the Federal Cabinet has already given exhaustive considerations to this matter and taken serious note of the Indian (?plan)

Pakistan's special concern has already been conveyed to India expressing the hope that the matter would be resolved expeditiously. He said as the first step in that direction Pakistan has called upon India to stop forthwith more construction work on the barrage. He assured the House that the government is fully conscious of the situation and will leave no stone unturned in pursuing the matter in the interest of the country. After a heated debate on this by Syed Fakhr Imam, Syed Nusrat Ali Shah, Sardar Hafiz Ahmed Ali, and Shah Balihuddin Sartaj, the speaker ruled the motion out of order observing that the barrage is on (?initial) stage and there is no failure on the part of the government to take notice of the question.

The speaker deferred a privilege motion sought to be moved by Shah Balihuddin [word indistinct] on (?debating) the report of the arrest of Indian agents entering Pakistan. Speaking on the motion, the interior minister, Mr Mohammad Aslam Khan Khattack, said it was correct that 26 Indian agents crossed into Pakistan and were arrested by the Rangers. Investigations are underway and all possible measures are being taken to apprehead saboteurs and terrorists.

No 'Official Response' From India

BK011056 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1005 GMT 1 Oct 86

[Text] The Foreign Office spokesman told newsmen in Islamabad today that Pakistan has not yet received an official response from India about the proposed construction of a barrage on the Jhelum River at the mouth of Wular Lake in occupied Kashmir. At this stage, the spokesman said, we are concerned with a question which has been recognized by the Indus Commission. The commission is now trying to resolve this question in the first instance in the commission itself. If it is not resolved, it would be referred to the two governments when it would be taken up at the government level.

The spokesman said that Pakistan Government has intervened at this point to emphasize the necessity of an early settlement precluding the presentation of a fait accompli to Pakistan. Since excavation work has started on the project, the question should be resolved.

Karachi Reports 'Huge' Explosion in Peshawar City

BK301602 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
1500 GMT 30 Sep 86

[Text] A huge explosion occurred in Shahi Bagh of Peshawar city this afternoon, but there was no loss of life or property.

Paper Suggests 'Direct Talks' for Afghan Settlement

BK301245 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English
25 Sep 86 p 4

[Text] In his speech to the United Nations General Assembly in New York, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze has voiced his country's desire to seek "new solutions and a fresh approach" to settle the Afghanistan question. He further added

that such an approach should "help to identify ways of solving the problem with due regard for the legitimate interests of the Afghan people and of its friends and neighbours." Additionally, he emphasised the acceptance of what he described as the "established realities, and not seeking arbitrarily to undo them." This is the first major policy pronouncement on Afghanistan from the Soviet side after Gorbachev's speech at the 27th Communist Party Congress in Moscow last February. The Soviet leader had then termed Afghanistan as a "bleeding wound" and expressed his country's desire to resolve the problem in 1986. That statement was followed by the ouster of Babrak Karmal in May and Gorbachev's Vladivostok speech in July in which he announced the withdrawal of six regiments of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. Put together, these moves are pointers to a Soviet reassessment of their bungled policy in Afghanistan which has tarnished the USSR's image in the Third World and earned it the hostility of the Afghan people who see the Red Army as largely an occupying force. This call for a "fresh approach" makes sense, given the fact that the Geneva talks on this issue have reached a deadlock. In any such fresh approach the Soviet Union should be willing to consider talking to those sections of the mujahidin within Afghanistan who are not 'wired' to distant powers. In fact, a reappraisal of the entire Geneva process should be on the cards and the concerned parties could examine the format enunciated by the Paris peace talks on Vietnam in 1968. Four parties to the conflict — the Soviet Union, the Najib regime, the mujahidin, and Pakistan — could sit together face to face in direct talks to resolve the two principal questions: a mutually acceptable timeframe for the withdrawal of Soviet forces and the form and content of the government of national reconciliation which would be in place in Kabul, post-Soviet withdrawal.

Pakistan should respond positively to this new Soviet overture. Our response does not necessarily have to be linked with the American attitude on this issue, since, in any case, there is a convergence of interests and objectives between Pakistan and the United States on the ways to resolve this conflict. As a medium-size neighbour of the Soviet Union which is experiencing the direct fallout of the Afghan conflict, Pakistan should seek an early settlement which can lead to the withdrawal of Soviet forces and the return of the Afghan refugees. As a distant superpower, the United States is more interested in scoring propaganda points vis-a-vis the Soviet Union and using the Afghan question as a bargaining chip in global trade offs in the Third World. Let the Foreign Office not miss yet another opportunity.

HAIDAR Editorial Views Terrorist Acts, Response
BK300746 Rawalpindi HAIDAR in Urdu 21 Sep 86 p 3

[Editorial: "Pakistan Is Becoming a Mini-Beirut"]

[Text] Three striking incidents of terrorism have occurred in Pakistan during the past 2 weeks. First of all, a few days ago, a Pan American plane was hijacked. Later, unknown insurgents planted a bomb in the car of the Iraqi deputy consul general in Karachi causing his death on Tuesday [16 September], and a person called Zafar killed a Soviet diplomat by spraying bullets from his revolver.

Apparently there seems to be no connection among these three incidents. But the manner in which incidents of sabotage and terrorism have been increasing and, as the Punjab endowments minister described it, the way unknown insurgents tried to achieve their obnoxious aims by creating trouble in the religious procession on the 10th day of Muharram, one can presume that all these incidents are interconnected and that some unknown, covert hand is desirous of achieving an ulterior motive by creating trouble and disunity in Pakistan.

This state of affairs on the one hand, and the failure of the government to maintain law and order, to prevent incidents of terrorism, and to protect foreign diplomats on the other, have caused great concern to patriotic people.

Under these circumstances the same questions frequently spring up in peoples's minds: whether the situation can be brought under control only by imposing curfew, calling out the army, or by enforcing martial law. Are not the elected government and political personalities in power capable of controlling the situation? And in fact those people who do not want to see democracy flourishing in the country nurture these questions and try to give the impression that only a martial law government can bring such a situation under control.

Under these circumstances the nation and the right thinking people should see whether or not some plan is being hatched to bring the people of the country once again under martial law along with traitors and some foreign conspirators.

The national responsibility of devising some concrete strategy at the political level for eradicating terrorism in this country rests with President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq and Prime Minister Junejo. The people of the country are more and more disturbed and concerned by the way this country is becoming an arena for a tug of war between some powers and for presenting the picture of a "mini Beirut".

If extraordinary steps are not taken against the elements behind these incidents, after duly identifying them, they will be more encouraged and the result will be nothing but the destruction of the country.

SRI LANKA

Parliament Votes 'To Extend' State of Emergency

BK261341 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English
1320 GMT 26 Sep 86

["OANA/POOL" item]

[Text] Colombo, Sept 26 *(Lanka Puwath)* — The motion to extend the state of emergency in Sri Lanka was passed by a two third majority in Parliament this evening.

111 members voted for the motion while the only communist party member in Parliament D.E.N Gunasekere voted against it.

The members of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) and the Mahajana Eksath Peramuna [Peoples United Front] (MEP) abstained from voting.

Next Round of Tamil Talks To Be Held in Delhi 16 Oct

BK281127 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 28 Sep 86

[Text] The third and possibly the final session of talks on the Tamil issue between the Sri Lankan Government and all the Tamil groups will be held in New Delhi on 16 October. This weekend and the next the Indian Government will hold talks separately and jointly with the moderate Tamil United Liberation Front and the armed extremist groups. Informed sources said that these talks will set the stage for smooth discussions on the Tamil issue when talks begin on the 16th. It has gone on record that the Indian foreign secretary was satisfied with the Sri Lankan Government's proposals, and in official circles it is taken that the foreign secretary was expressing the view of the Indian Government.

Amnesty International's 'Disappearance' Claims Denied

BK291423 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English
1129 GMT 29 Sep 86

[Text] Colombo, Sept 29 *(Lanka Puwath)* — The Sri Lankan Government in a statement released through the Media Centre in Colombo today totally rejected the statements, assertions, conclusions, and suggestions made by Amnesty International in it's report entitled Dissappearances in Sri Lanka.

The report points out that:

— Amnesty International in its genuine eagerness to uphold human rights the world over has ignored the political, social, economic, and other relevant conditions and situations existing in countries which the organisation endeavors to monitor continuously.

A statement or sworn affidavit by itself or accompanied by other statements and affidavits seeming to corroborate one another is not a legally acceptable, truthful, and valid document, unless subjected to cross-examination by the party accused of such "disappearances". This is basic to the principles of international law.

—Any person in Sri Lanka has the right, enshrined in law, of obtaining a passport or travel document, a foreign exchange allowance of [number indistinct] per person and travel to any part of world for any reason whatsoever.

—The Sri Lankan Government welcomes Amnesty International to file such actions in the local courts so as to allow the government or its law enforcement institutions to defend themselves.

—The Government of Sri Lanka goes further and wants such actions filed.

—It appeals to these institutions to afford the government a chance of cross-examining witnesses and the people who have filed sworn affidavits etc.

—There are many Sri Lankans belonging to all ethnic groups who have regularly taken the easiest route so far to receive asylum i.e. to West Berlin. These are not genuine asylum seekers but those who pretend to be victims of political persecution in order to obtain asylum, a dole, and eventually some gainful employment.

—It must be remembered that Sri Lanka is yet among the 26 poorest countries in the world with a sizeable backlog of accumulated unemployment which it is striving to eliminate.

In such a situation anybody crossing into a foreign country in the West, be it West Berlin, West Germany, France, Switzerland, Canada, United States, the Netherlands, Denmark, and Scandinavian countries with or without a travel document and claiming political refugee status is sure of being granted asylum at least till his claims are assessed.

—More importantly, youths who join the terrorist movement immediately assume not only a false name, but also a completely new identity which even their parents do not know. Thus, most parents do not know that their sons are terrorists.

—In such a situation when information received by arrested or surrendered terrorist suspects a youth in a given village is arrested and taken away he promptly denies his name, his parents, or that he lives in that particular village. [sentence as received]

This is to prevent further investigations in the village which will lead to further arrests of suspected terrorists.

—Often parents deliberately conceal the fact that their children have gone abroad on illegal documents in search of "economic" asylum for by admitting the fact they would make it known that the son's whereabouts would be made public and he may be sent home by the country granting him asylum.

—In such a case the best way to explain his "disappearance" is to say that "he has been taken away by the Army or the police or even the Navy". He has thus disappeared.

—There are an estimated 350,000 Sri Lankan Tamils in various countries claiming refugee status. Their names are not known to the Government of Sri Lanka. Their travel documents, if any, are not available to the Sri Lankan Government for scrutiny.

—In addition to all this, there are violent internecine rivalries between various terrorist groups. Recently, over 300 members belonging to the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation (TELO) led by its leader T. Bamaratnam were killed by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE).

Velupillai Prabhakaram the leader of the LTTE living permanently in Madras gave an interview in Madras to the Madras *The Hindu* newspapers of the 4th and the 5th of September 1986 and declared that he has liquidated the TELO group. Such internecine warfare amongst rival terrorists groups numbering over 30 has resulted in a large number of deaths and cremation of those killed by rival terrorist organisations.

This gives another aspect to the "disappearances".

—An examination of some of the evidences for "disappearances" presented by the Amnesty International would clearly reveal that the evidence presented remains mere hearsay and invalid in any court of law, established and operating, according to norms accepted the world over.

Page 18 of the Amnesty International report refers to the "disappearance" of Father Mary Bastian. "Early in the morning of 6th January 1985 the security forces launched an attack on terrorists hiding in the St. Anne's Church complex in Mannar. In the ensuing shoot out 8 terrorists were killed.

"On the 8th of January Minister of National Security Mr Lalith Athulathmudali said that 'Father Mary Bastian's body was not found among the dead and ordered a full police investigation into the shootings'. Speculation was rife as to whether Father Bastian was dead, his body burnt, buried, or whether he was hiding in India.

"The Amnesty International states that it has not received [evidence] in support of government speculation that Father Mary Bastian is still alive and the Catholic bishop's conference of Sri Lanka has strongly condemned this suggestion (on 2nd March 1985) affirming that there were eyewitnesses to his killing...."

However, the Amnesty International in its report failed to mention that a judicial inquest regarding all those found killed in the shoot out was conducted on the church premises by a judge of the high court. At that inquest the nun's attached to the church complex did not give any evidence or make any statements though they would have been the logical witnesses to the incident.

Secondly, those who claimed that they saw the incident were found not to be truthful witnesses because it was established that from the places where they said they were at the time of the incident they could not have witnessed the shoot out.

Further the sequence of events that took place that night according to the findings at the inquest was that the army surrounded the church complex and loudly hailed all civilians to vacate. It was established that all civilians went into one room and hid themselves.

It was also revealed that during the firing a number of people had run from the back of the church towards the beach and that sounds of a motor boat starting and speeding away were heard.

When the army examined the premises in daylight they could not trace Father Bastian.

Thus, the inquest findings contradict the so called eyewitness accounts which the Amnesty International refers to and also surfaces the doubt as to whether Father Bastian did not leave in the motor boat which was heard to speed away during the shoot out.

It is well known that the liberation theology of some countries of Latin America has crept into other areas as well.

These points regarding Father Bastian's case were made by Sri Lanka's representatives at a human rights session held in Geneva during February and March this year. Even this fact has been ignored by the Amnesty International.

In fact it is indeed tragic to note that the Amnesty International has resorted to false statements in their report. Thus, in page 52 part I of the report we find the following statement which deals with the ineffectiveness of domestic legal remedies:

"The ineffectiveness of this traditional legal remedy — even in cases of people arrested on criminal charges — has been the object of criticism by the Sri Lanka Bar Association whose subcommittee investigating the right of people in police custody is reported to have adopted the view that habeas corpus does not provide expeditious relief for people held beyond the 24 hour maximum period of police custody permitted under ordinary criminal law".

This is a travesty of the truth. No such "view" has been expressed by the subcommittee which is still discussing ways and means of expediting all court cases for there are many conflicting views as to the legal relief and their expeditiousness not only in Sri Lanka but in the whole corpus of criminal law accepted by Britain and other Commonwealth countries, such as habeas corpus.

Mr Daya Perera the president of the Sri Lanka Bar Association when contacted went on record stating that the statement contained in page 52 Part I of the Amnesty International report is completely untrue and that the said subcommittee has not concluded its sittings and may not for a few weeks more as the proposed remedies pose greater problems than the so-called inexpeditious modes of habeas corpus.

—The Amnesty International also has omitted to mention that there are free legal aid schemes and human rights associations who will help "relatives of people who 'disappeared' in the north and east".

However, it comments that they may find it difficult to obtain the services of a competent lawyer to represent them before the

Court of Appeal which hears habeas corpus petititions and which sits a long distance away in Colombo.

How long is the distance to Colombo?. A matter of about 200 miles at the most.

So people in the north and east of Sri Lanka find the distance to Colombo too great but not the distance to send affidavits and sworn statements to Geneva where Amnesty International has its headquarters. Geneva is closer to the north and east of Sri Lanka than Colombo is.

— Amnesty International does not speak of the inquest procedure in high courts with regard to deaths caused during exercise of functions by the security forces. Nor does it mention of the 230 counter affidavits filed by the Government of Sri Lanka before the Human Rights Association in Geneva in relation to the very matters raised by the Amnesty International.

—The theme of the report of the Amnesty International in its general conclusions and recommendations is that it is seeking approval to internationalize an essentially national and domestic matter.

—The Government of Sri Lanka welcomes any person, group of persons, duly constituted body, local or international, seeking legal redress for and on behalf of any victims of "disappearances," torture, or killings appearing before the domestic courts in regard to all instances mentioned by the Amnesty International in its two part report on "disappearances in Sri Lanka" or in regard to any other matter.

—Sri Lanka remains an open society welcoming any body to investigate any matter in regard to terrorist or any other activity which refers to any violation of human rights.

—The government will also guarantee the safety of all persons be they those who file such petitions before the courts of the land or be they the witnesses called in pursut of such cases.

—The Government of Sri Lanka wishes only the opportunity to test by legal scrutiny and cross examination the veracity of affidavits and eyewitness accounts presented by the Amnesty International.

3 Killed, 3 Injured in Landmine Explosion

BK261337 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 1315 GMT 26 Sep 86

["OANA/POOL" item]

[Text] Colombo, Sept 26 *(Lanka Puwath)* — Three civilians including a 70 year old Muslim women were killed and three others were injured when separatist terrorists exploded a landmine near the third mile post on the Trincomalee Nilaweli road in eastern Sri Lanka this evening.

The Media Centre in Colombo told *Lanka Puwath* that the incident occurred at about 1500 hours (local time) today, when a lorry carring civilians were passing the third mile post on the Trincomalee-Nilaweli road.

The dead have been identified as Aumma Umma, Nagoor Pitchai Samsudeen, and Velupillai Ponnadurai.

Khamene'i Says Victory Over Ba'thist Troops 'Near'

LD301529 Tehran IRNA in English 1505 GMT 30 Sep 86

[Text] Tehran, Sept 30, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i said here Tuesday that the victory of Iranian forces over the Ba'thist troops in the imposed war is near. He said both nations will shortly celebrate this victory.

The president made the remarks in a speech to a group of construction jihad members here where he added that Iran's success in defeating imperialist powers will set an example for other nations and pave the way for revolutions in their countries.

The superpowers are now well aware that Saddam Husayn's Ba'thist regime is no longer capable of remaining in power, the president said.

Khamene'i said that those countries which used to fully back the Baghdad government are now implicitly announcing their support for Iran in messages or interviews, although, he noted, they do not wish Iran to win the war.

On the plunder of oppressed nations' resources by a few big powers, the president said that some Eastern or Western powers such as the U.S., Britain, France, and even small European countries are bullying four bilion people across the globe.

Head of the Supreme Defense Council furthermore said that Iran's revolutionary nation has stood firmly against the U.S. and other big powers while most countries are not aware of plots of imperialist powers or have surrendered to them.

Views Importance of Intelligence

LD281736 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Sep 86

[Text] President Khamene'i, chairman of the Supreme Council for Cultural Revolution, opened, with a speech this afternoon, Imam Mohammad Baqer college which is affiliated with the Ministry of Intelligence. At this ceremony, President Khamene'i expressed his pleasure because of the formation of the college of intelligence [Daneshkadeh-i 'Ettela'at] and, elaborating on the situation in the country with regard to intelligence, he said: Our country used to be the target of all the world's intelligence services at one time because of its strategic situation, oil resources, and the potential presence of Islam and the faith in the country. Today, with the victory of the Islamic Revolution in the country, in addition to the aforementioned reasons, the Islamic Republic of Iran is a major target for the world's intelligence services. One cannot compare Iran with any other country which might be situated in a normal region and which does not have an Islamic regime or face such sensitive circumstances.

President Khamene'i added: We need a strong, united, pioneering, innovative, and independent intelligence organization because if there is no innovation in intelligence matters we will not be able to remain independent and we will be left behind.

Referring to the point that faithful and honest elements in the revolution have been able to pass through many intelligence obstacles up to now, and the fact that Imam Mohammad Baqer College can be a major step along this path, the president said: The intelligence front is more dangerous than the battle-fronts and we will suffer blows if we are not alert.

Terms Police Role 'Praiseworthy'

LD282333 Tehran IRNA in English 1700 GMT 28 Sep 86

[Text] Tehran, Sept 28, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i Saturday described the role of the police personnel as "praiseworthy".

Speaking to a large group of policemen on the occasion of the police day, President Khamene'i stressed that policemen should set patterns of modesty, honesty, and discipline in an Islamic society.

The president said that revolutionary growth in the Armed Forces was greater than in many other classes of the Iranian society and attributed it to the existence of subjectivism in the socity.

Comparing the Islamic Revolution of Iran with other revolutions in the world, the president said that in some African countries with so-called progressive and revolutionary anti-racist governments, many key posts are occupied by white people who do not believe in equality of black and white.

In some other so-called revolutionary systems, the president added, reactionary governments cannot even encounter domestic and foreign problems bravely.

On the other hand, President Khamene'i said, in some Islamic countries there are officials who do not have deep knowledge of Islamic laws and in certain Arab countries which have launched a "nationalistic" revolution, there are officials who talk about Arabism but can not speak Arabic fluently. The reason is that these countries lack revolutionary subjectivity, a major criteria for the victory of a revolution.

In another part of his speech, President Khamene'i said that the Iranian nation had become more resolute for obtaining its goals and despite existing shortcomings, presence of people both at and behind war fronts has become more perceiveable due to people's interest in the Islamic Revolution.

Imam Khomeyni's representative to the police department, Hojjat ol-Eslam Movahhedi Kermani, outlined the sensitive role of policemen in the imposed war, saying that police personnel were present at the battle fronts from the very beginning of the war.

Meanwhile, a cheque reading 15 million rials (about 194,805 U.S. dollars) was presented to the president to be spent for war efforts.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Addresses Base Personnel

NC301024 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 30 Sep 86

[Text] Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the imam's representative in the Supreme Defense Council, met with pilots of the 4th Dezful fighter base yesterday evening after a brief visit to the western and southern fronts. In a speech to the personnel at the base, he said: During the 6 years of the Muslim Iranians' holy defensive war, the Islamic Republic's Armed Forces have given up many martyrs. We see the pictures of a large number of them here. They are proof of the Armed Forces' commitment and loyalty to the revolution and to Islam. The trust that the people and the authorities have in the Armed Forces and in the Air Force cannot be shaken by the treachery of a number of elements who seek to conquer the world. Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: The military situation, combat readiness, logistic and mobilization conditions of our Armed Forces are the best they have been during the 6 years of defense, while our enemies are extremely nervous and expect an offensive by the combatants of Islam at any moment. He said: Our enemies are losing sleep and are constantly worrying if they will be the targets of the combatants of Islam tonight, tomorrow night, this week, or next month.

The imam's representative in the Supreme Defense Council then spoke about the effective operation and role of the Air Force in defending the Islamic homeland, and said: Despite the fact that arrogant forces are helping our enemy with weapons and material, our pilots and experts have made the best possible use of our aircraft and have themselves manufactured many of the spare parts needed. Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani pointed out: The role of the pilots and the Air Force, as well as of the air defense networks during the victorious "Val Fajr-8" operations, was outstanding. In future operations, too, the Air Force should maintain its readiness and play its basic part in striking at the enemy.

He referred to the enemy's aggressive policy in attacking economic and labor installations in our country, and pointed out: Our Air Force should, with its just retaliatory operations, inflict blows on the enemy for the crimes it has perpetrated; and of course, the missile systems and the powerful artillery of the combatants of Islam will also carry out their role.

It should be pointed out that during his brief visit to the fronts of the imposed war, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani met and talked with commanders of the Islamic Republic's Armed Forces and the Revolutionary Guards Corps in their headquarters.

Armed Forces Staff Chief Hopes for Victories 'Soon'

LD300952 Tehran IRNA in English 0938 GMT 30 Sep 86

[Text] Tehran, Sept 30, IRNA — Chief of staff of the Armed Forces, Colonel Esma'il Sohrabi expressed hope that Iran's Muslim combatants would achieve great victories very soon.

Col Sohrabi further said that during the six years of the war, the Iraqi regime had breached all international regulations and committed inhuman acts, including deployment of chemical weapons and attacking residential areas.

Speaking in a meeting with foreign military attaches residing here on the last day of the War Week, Sunday, the chief of staff said that the Islamic Republic of Iran did not intend to occupy others' territories. "Our goal is clear and we are defending our justified rights against an aggression imposed on us." Col Sohrabi also stressed that Iraq's destiny should be determined by the Iraqi nation.

Romanian military attache, in a speech on behalf of the audience, described the War Week programs as 'useful'. He said that the march staged by Iranian Armed Forces personnel indicated their high morale.

Foreign Minister Velayati Meets Counterparts at UN

LD301225 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 30 Sep 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Velayati, who is in New York at the head of a delegation to attend the 41st UN General Assembly session, separately met the Syrian, UAE, Qatar,and Cypriot foreign ministers yesterday.

During the meeting between Velayati and the Syrian foreign minister, coordination between the two countries at the United Nation and the latest situation in the imposed war were reviewed. The two sides reviewed the outcome of the nonaligned summit in Harare and discussed the future of the movement and the necessary measures and coordination.

During the meeting between our country's foreign minister and his UAE counterpart, expansion of mutual relations and mutual cooperation at the United Nations were discussed. During the meeting, while calling his trip to Tehran fruitful, the UAE foreign minister invited Velayati to pay a formal visit to his country.

During his meeting with the Qatari foreign minister, Velayati reviewed the regional situation and invited him to pay a formal visit to Iran.

During the meeting between the Iranian and the Cypriot foreign ministers, the session of the Nonaligned Movement foreign ministers, which is to take place in 1988 in Cyprus, was discussed.

Meeting With French Counterpart

LD290[illegible]3 Tehran IRNA in English 0600 GMT 29 Sep 86

[Text] Tehran, Sept 29, IRNA — Iran's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and his French counterpart Jean-Bernard Raimond held a four-hour talk in New York, Sunday morning. The two sides discussed matters of mutual interest and regional issues.

The two foreign ministers had another meeting on Saturday afternoon upon Velayati's arrival in New York to participate in the annual session of the UN General Assembly.

Importance of French Contact Viewed

LD301357 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1107 GMT 30 Sep 86

["Political commentary"]

[Text] Of the various meetings which our country's foreign minister has held with other world officials at the UN, his meeting with the French foreign minister is of particular importance, considering the issues influencing the bilateral relations. French policy on the Iran-Iraq war, the question of France's repayment of the loan owed to our country, and the activities of the counterrevolutionaries have been among the issues which have, over the recent years, injected certain oddities into the relations between the two countries.

However, in the course of a trip to France by our country's political deputy to the prime minister, which took place a few months ago, the French Government showed a certain positive willingness to resolve some of the existing problems [words indistinct]. Among the positive steps taken by the French Government one may mention the curbing of activities by the Iranian counterrevolutionaries.

Another recent event which should be mentioned is last week's meeting between our country's charge d'affaires and the French foreign minister on a final agreement for the repayment of the $1 billion plus interest debt France owes Iran. After the meeting the charge d'affaires hoped for an early settlement. Meanwhile, during his recent interview to ABC network, Jacques Chirac referred to the repeated accusations by certain capitalist countries, particularly the United States, to the effect that the Iranian, Syrian, and Libyan Governments were supporting terrorism as groundless.

Therefore, in this light the meeting between the Iranian and French foreign ministers at the UN, as the highest level of diplomatic meeting between the two countries' officials over recent years, is indicative of the two countries' policies aimed at resolving the problems hindering the normalization of their relations.

Nevertheless, the issue still remains that the French Government's political support for and military aid to the warmongering Iraqi regime continue to deter the normalization of relations between our country and France. After all, our country's officials expect that even if other countries of the world refuse to condemn warmongering Iraq in this imposed war, at least they should adopt a totally neutral policy and thus limit the strengthening and reviving of Iraq's forces.

Saudi, Malaysian Meetings

NC010719 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 1 Oct 86

[Text] Saudi Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal and Amir Bandar ibn Sultan, Saudi Arabia's permanent representative to the United Nations, met Mr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, our country's foreign minister, yesterday at the residence of the Islamic Republic of Iran's UN representative for a discussion of various subjects. The participants in the 75-minute meeting expressed satisfaction with their countries' growing relations, and reviewed and assessed specific regional issues. The two sides stressed the need to expand bilateral trade relations and to continue the current trend toward reduction of their oil production ceilings. The Iranian and Saudi foreign ministers noted their satisfaction with the results of the most recent OPEC decision in this regard and expressed the hope that its implementation would continue until the agreed upon price of oil is achieved, and that the members of OPEC would continue to cooperate at their next session.

Mr Mahathir Mohammad, the Malaysian prime minister, also met with Mr Velayati yesterday morning. The Malaysian foreign minister was in attendance. The parties discussed the two countries' cooperation at the international level and the promotion of bilateral commercial ties. Mahathir Mohammad reaffirmed that it is Malaysia's policy to expand ties with the Islamic countries and to defend the Palestinian people's rights, adding: The pressures of propaganda will have no impact on Malaysia's proper stance on relations with the Islamic countries or on its support for the Palestinian people's legitimate aspirations. Mr Velayati endorsed Malaysia's position on Palestine and emphasized the need to promote greater solidarity among the Islamic countries. He also expressed satisfaction with the two countries' relations and noted his hope that Iranian and Malaysian officials will increase their exchanges, to further solidify the two countries' ties.

Amrollahi Urges Atomic Energy for Peaceful Purposes

LD302328 Tehran IRNA in English 1648 GMT 30 Sep 86

[Text] Tehran, Sept 30, IRNA — The Islamic Republic of Iran would like to see developing countries be allowed to use atomic energy for peaceful purposes and for promoting their economic and industrial plans, said head of Iran's atomic energy organization Reza Amrollahi in Vienna Monday.

Speaking in the 30th session of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Amrollahi said that Iran is strongly against the manufacture and stockpiling of nuclear weapons because of the danger they pose to mankind.

The Iranian official also said that it was obvious that true independent and non-aligned countries have not been allowed to make any progress in the area of nuclear technology and that their research in the field is very primitive. There is no limit on activities or expansion of nuclear arsenals by the superpowers and other countries which have the technology, Amrollahi said. He expressed hope that this "unjust" situation would not last long.

On the June, 1986 Iraqi raid on the Iranian atomic reactor in Bushehr, Amrollahi said that IAEA has so far not taken any deterrent measures against the attack and that the Baghdad regime has not stopped its violations of international regulations.

Amrollahi said that the IAEA seems to have implicitly encouraged the Iraqi regime to continue its destructive attacks by not taking a decisive stand.

The official also listed some of Iran's proposals on how to secure world peace and make the world free of nuclear weapons.

Representatives from nore than 100 countries are participating in the meeting which opened in Vienna Monday. The meeting will end on Friday.

LIBERATION Interviews KDP's Abdorrahman Qasemlu

PM301012 Paris LIBERATION in French 22 Sep 86 p 22

[Interview with KDP Secretary General Abdorrahman Qasemlu by Marc Kravetz in Paris — date not given, first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] KDP Secretary General Abdorrahman Qasemlu is both a political and a military leader. For 7 years the "Peshmergas" — Kurdish guerrillas — have been fighting the Iranian Army and Khomeyni's "revolution guards" in the mountains of western Iran. Despite the extreme violence of this war the KDP has constantly rejected terrorism on principle and as a method of combat. On a brief visit to Paris Abdorrahman Qasemlu explained this in an exclusive interview with *Liberation.*

Abdorrahman Qasemlu: Terrorism is not just bombs being planted in Western capitals but also, for instance, regimes like the Khomeyni regime massacring the population of a village. In the West people tend to talk about the first form of terrorism and ignore the second. In addition, terrorism is not just the work of clandestine groups. Some states are responsible for terrorism. We now know that Iran alone has officially made terrorism a state policy. I was anxious to make this first point clear.

Second, terrorism and the national liberation movements are two different things. Waging a guerrilla war or an armed struggle for a people's liberation does not imply resorting to terrorism. Quite the reverse is true; I think that the strong movements are those which are democratic, and those which have the population's support do not need terrorism. In the KDP's case, although the Khomeyni regime has perpetrated real acts of terrorism against the population of Iranian Kordestan several times, we condemned hostage-taking from the start on principle. Ours was the only party in Iran to condemn the seizure of the U.S. hostages in 1979. You know that it was not easy to condemn that action at that time. In addition, we have always condemned hijacking, the bombing of cities, and so forth.

However, there is also the negative side of the problem: In the long term the organizations which have nothing to do with terrorism and do not resort to it, certainly attain their ends; however they lose a great deal in the short term and perhaps even in the medium term. What do they lose? It is simply that people do not talk about liberation movements which do not resort to terrorism.

It is as if there were a kind of complicity — although not deliberate — between the mass media and the terrorists. When an act of terrorism is perpetrated in a big West European capital or against the United States, there is a great deal of talk and the group which perpetrated it becomes famous.

I think, therefore, that one way of combatting terrorism would be to talk about people who are waging a democratic struggle and who never resort to terrorism.

Liberation: Do you draw a distinction in Iran between "internal" state terrorism and the use of terrorism as a means of action outside the country? Can you tell us more about this?

Abdorrahman Qasemlu: It is an official policy which the Islamic Republic announced a few years ago. Now, because there is a great deal of opposition and protests against the Khomeyni regime's terrorism, the regime is continuing its action without officially admitting it. But the theory on which the Islamic Republic is based has always been to export the Islamic Revolution by all possible means including terrorism. The early days of Islam contains examples of such actions being permitted. Do not forget that Iran is governed by the doctrine of the power of the theologians. According to this philosoihy, an ayatollah — Khomeyni today — is recognized as Islam's — concealed — representative on earth, and he is allowed to do anything to attain the goal set by the imam or the great ayatollah. The clerics who rule Iran have realized that terrorism could force governments to change their stance if not their policy, especially in Western countries. This is why they have chosen these methods. I personally think that events in Lebanon and elsewhere, in several other Muslim countries, are directly controlled by Tehran. This is also true of what is happening in the West, especially in France.

Liberation: Is it possible for democracies to have "normal" relations with Iran as the French Government now wishes to do?

Abdorrahman Qasemlu: It is not up to me to decide for them; all I can do is talk about Iran and the Khomeyni regime with which we have been at war for 7 years and which we know well. Of course, at first, despite our reservations, we sought some basis for agreement. Experience made us lose all confidence. In my view, the French Government also ought to realize that this regime uses methods which are not the normal methods in international relations. Iran has also learned to accept international rules, at least to appear to do so. As you know, it is a UN member, but in fact it rejects all these rules. In the Islamic Revolution's philosophy, only the rules which serve its ends are acceptable. You must never trust what this regime's representatives claim and state. In addition, you must know with whom you are talking. Even a deputy foreign minister who comes here to discuss the hostages or negotiate normalization has no power. Power in Iran is concentrated in the hands of Khomeyni or Rafsanjani (parliamentary speaker — *Liberation* editor's note). We have negotiated with Khomeyni's envoys many times. When they returned to Tehran, nothing was accepted. They do the same with the Western governments.

Liberation: So, you have been fighting in Iran for 7 years. What is your position?

Abdorrahman Qasemlu: First, we are unfortunately alone. There is no active armed resistance in the other regions of Iran. However, the situation has changed over the past 2 years, to the regime's detriment. We note that Khomeyni's fighters have extremely low morale this year. Previously they fought to the bitter end, they had come to Kordestan to die. Over recent

months around 30 military bases have been captured by the fighters. Our losses have been minimal because Khomeyni's men admitted defeat relatively quickly.

Liberation: Iran is fighting Iraq, and you are fighting the Iranian regime.... Is it true to say that you form a second front?

Abdorrahman Qasemlu: Certainly, because to fight us the regime has mobilized more than 200,000 men grouped in 23 garrisons in Kordestan. But the aim of our guerrilla warfare inside Iran differs from the Iraqis' aim. They are fighting to force Iran to make peace.

Our demand has not changed: It is democracy for Iran and autonomy for Iranian Kordestan. We think that the war on the one hand, the economic situation on the other — especially after the drop in oil prices — and the population's growing opposition should force the regime to accept peace with Iraq, and we want that. But this is unlikely to happen while Khomeyni is in power.

Liberation: The Iranians are announcing a forthcoming offensive, which many people say will be decisive. What do you think?

Abdorrahman Qasemlu: I think they certainly need a great victory.

Liberation: Is it possible?

Abdorrahman Qasemlu: This may be the biggest offensive since the war started and, from the information we have, it will again be based on "human waves." Khomeyni is prepared to sacrifice tens of thousands of people.

He may score a few points but I do not think he will be able to crush Iraq. However, if you are prepared to sacrifice tens of thousands of young Iranians in each battle, you can win them.

Liberation: This presupposes that tens of thousands of young Iranians are prepared to lay down their lives for Khomeyni. So, the regime is not as unpopular as people say.

Abdorrahman Qasemlu: Although 90 percent of the population are in the opposition, you must not forget that 10 percent of the population amounts to more than 4 million people, mostly well-organized, armed, fanatical young people who have all the means of the state at their disposal and with whom Khomeyni can certainly govern for a long time.

The Iranian regime is very weak from the political, economic, and military viewpoints, but there is no strong, organized opposition which could overthrow this regime. In the absence of free elections, an insurrection is needed, and hence an organization capable of mounting it throughout Iran. Unfortunately, we see no signs of this at present, other than in Kordestan.

Esfahan's Chemical Plant After Iraqi Attack Viewed

TA300001 (Clandestine) Voice of the Liberation of Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 30 Sep 86

[Text] Reports from the city of Esfahan indicate that Swedish experts and technicians who were responsible for managing the chemical fertilizer plant in Esfahan, have permanently left Iranian soil. On the basis of these reports, it appears that in the aftermath of the recent aerial attack by the Iraqis on Esfahan's chemical fertilizer plant, the Swedish Government called on its nationals to leave Iran in order to safeguard their lives. Meanwhile, on a report about this incident, the publication of Lloyd's insurance company of London adds that the main activity of Esfahan's chemical fertilizer plant was, in fact, the production of chemical weapons, and as a result of the recent Iraqi attack the plant is currently out of operation.

Communique No 2,610 Details Combat Operations

LD301717 Tehran IRNA in English 1555 GMT 30 Sep 86

[Text] Tehran, Sept 30, IRNA — An undetermined number of Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and at least 15 UN emplacements and observation posts, several vehicles, two trucks and one munitions dump destroyed throughout the fronts when they were hit by Iranian artillery fire on Monday, said a military communique here Tuesday.

Joint Staff Communique Number 2,610 said that Iranian forces suppressed Iraqi patrols and shelled enemy positions in the western fronts Monday killing or wounding a number of enemy soldiers and destroying at least 15 gun emplacements and observation posts of theirs.

In Halaleh and Mehran operational theaters, western fronts, Iraqi engineering operations were checked and two enemy vehicles destroyed by Iranian artillery fire on Monday. A number of enemy vehicles were also damaged. Iranian gendarmerie forces pounded Iraqi positions in parts of the southern fronts Monday destroying several enemy light as well as heavy vehicles and setting afire parts of their fortifications.

In the southern fronts, exchange of artillery fire raged more heavily in Talayeh and Zayid and Iranian Muslim combatants heavily pounded Iraqi positions and supply routes on Monday inflicting substantial casualties and losses on ememy troops. A number of Iraqi gun emplacements, one munitions dump, and two trucks were destroyed and parts of enemy positions set ablaze in Piranshahr, Sar Dasht, and Marivan operational theaters, northwestern fronts, Monday when they were shelled by Iranian forces.

According to the communique, Iraqi engineering operations in Khorramshahr and Shalamcheh, southern fronts, and reconnaissance flights of enemy helicopters in Sar Dasht, northwestern fronts, were checked on Monday.